



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT

23 NOVEMBER 2020

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Los Angeles – California Officials Announce Takedown of Aryan Brotherhood

(U) California authorities advised they have dismantled the senior leadership of the white supremacist Aryan Brotherhood as part of a statewide takedown of the notorious prison gang and its associates in the Fresno street gang in Fresno County. The investigation included federal and state charges for more than 100 defendants in California, Nevada, and Montana.

SOURCE: 20 November 2020, [Yahoo News](#)

(U) Los Angeles – LA Hits 300 Homicides for First Time in a Decade

(U) Los Angeles recorded its 300th homicide for the year, a milestone last reached a decade ago. The year's spike in violence in Los Angeles, including a 32% increase in shootings, comes as other major cities also grapple with similar rises in crime during the COVID-19 pandemic. Four killings over the weekend pushed the city into the 300-death mark for the first time since 2009.

SOURCE: 22 November 2020, [Fox News](#)

(U) San Jose – Two Dead in Stabbing at Church in San Jose

(U) At least two people were killed and others seriously wounded in a stabbing at Grace Baptist Church in San Jose. Authorities advised there were no services going on at the time. Homeless individuals were brought inside the facility to get them out of the cold weather. The Mayor advised police had a suspect in custody, but police later said that was not accurate. An investigation is ongoing into the incident.

SOURCE: 23 November 2020, [CBS News](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Mexico – At Least 113 Bodies Found in Mass Grave in Mexico

(U) Jalisco – At least 113 bodies have been identified during the excavation of a mass grave in Mexico. The clandestine grave was found in the municipality of El Salto in the western Mexican state of Jalisco. Thirty of the bodies have been identified while the other victims remain as "unidentified deceased person" with the Forensic Medical Service. The state of Jalisco is one of the most active drug cartel battlegrounds in the country. In October, sixty bodies were found in another mass grave in Guanajuato.

SOURCE: 23 November 2020, [Newsweek](#)

(U) Texas – Immigrants Found Concealed in Furniture and Appliances

(U) Laredo – US Border Patrol agents discovered 13 immigrants who were concealed in furniture and appliances at a US checkpoint near Laredo. All of the individuals were later determined to be Mexican citizens who had crossed the border illegally. Agents arrested the driver, a US citizen, and seized the vehicle pending a further investigation.

SOURCE: 20 November 2020, [Laredo Morning Times](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Virginia – Maryland Drug Dealer, Nebraska Pharmacist Sentenced for Pharmacy Fire Bomb Plot

(U) Alexandria – A Nebraska pharmacist was sentenced to nine-years in prison and a Maryland drug

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dealer to 14-years for a convoluted plot to firebomb a competing pharmacy so they could divert more prescription narcotics to the black market. Federal authorities discovered the plot after arresting one of the suspects for running a website on the internet black market that sold large quantities of illicit drugs. SOURCE: 20 November 2020, [CBS Baltimore](#)

(U) Wisconsin – Suspect in Custody after 8 Injured in Shooting Incident at Wisconsin Mall

(U) Wauwatosa – Police announced the arrest of a 15-year-old male in connection with the shooting at a Wisconsin mall that left seven adults and a teenager injured. A firearm was recovered at the scene of the teen's arrest. Authorities made the arrest on Saturday following the execution of search warrants. Officials state the shooting was not random, but the result of an altercation. The extent of the eight victims' injuries are unknown at this time.

SOURCE: 21 November 2020, [Fox 8](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Afghanistan – ISIS Claimed Rocket Attack on Kabul Kills Eight

(U) Kabul – At least eight people were killed when a barrage of rockets struck densely populated parts of Kabul, the latest attack in a wave of violence that has engulfed the Afghan capital. The Islamic State in Iraq and ash-Sham's (ISIS) affiliate in the Khorasan province claimed responsibility for the attack that came hours before US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo was to meet with negotiators from the Afghan government and the Taliban in the Qatari capital Doha, amid signs of progress in their peace talks.

SOURCE: 20 November 2020, [Yahoo News](#)

(U) Iraq – 9 Iraqi Security Personnel, Civilians Dead in ISIS Ambush in Baghdad

(U) Baghdad – Six Iraqi security personnel and three civilians were killed in an ambush carried out by ISIS north of Baghdad. A roadside bomb hit a car and jihadists opened fire on a rescue team of police officers and state-aligned paramilitary forces who arrived at the scene. Three civilians were also killed along with the security personnel. Authorities did not advise about casualties among the assailants.

SOURCE: 21 November 2020, [Al Arabiya News](#)

(U) Iraq – Iraqi Army Killed 16 ISIS Terrorists

(U) Kirkuk – The Iraqi Army killed sixteen ISIS terrorists in a counterterrorism operation in countryside of northern Kirkuk province in Iraq. Drones of the US-led international coalition against ISIS supported the operation. Iraqi security forces destroyed a large number of terrorist shelters during the operation along with the seizure of forged documents, passports, and weapons. The Iraqi army continues to carry out frequent operations against the group in multiple parts of the country.

SOURCE: 20 November 2020, [Anadolu Agency](#)

(U) Senegal – Al Qa'ida Names New North Africa Leader, Reports Kidnap Death

(U) Dakar – Al Qa'ida's North African branch advised it has appointed a new leader after confirming the death of its former chief, who was killed in June by French forces. In a video published Saturday, Al Qa'ida in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) displayed the body of its former leader before announcing Yazid Mubarak, also known as Abu Ubaida Yusuf al-Annabi, as their new leader. The group also confirmed the death of Swiss missionary Beatrice Stockly, who had been captured in January 2016.

SOURCE: 22 November 2020, [Associated Press](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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